



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
<http://dnr.state.il.us>

Pat Quinn, Governor
Marc Miller, Director

December 11, 2013

Dan Voss
Quality Sand Mine
418 N. 35th Road
LaSalle, IL 61301

Eric Runkle
1021 N. Grand Avenue East
Springfield, IL 62794

RE: Quality Sand Mine
IDNR Project # 1406114
LaSalle County

Dear Mr. Voss and Mr. Runkle:

This letter concerns the Endangered Species Consultation for a proposed sand mine in LaSalle County adjacent to Pecumsaugan Creek. This project was submitted for consultation in accordance with the *Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act* [520 ILCS 10/11], the *Illinois Natural Areas Preservation Act* [525 ILCS 30/17], and Title 17 *Illinois Administrative Code* Part 1075.

The project area is located less than two miles upstream from the **Pecumsaugan Creek-Blackball Mine Nature Preserve and Illinois Natural Areas Inventory (INAI) Site**. This Nature Preserve is owned by the Department of Natural Resources. The Blackball Mine and other mines in the Nature Preserve provide the only known winter hibernaculum in Northern Illinois for the state- and federally-listed endangered **Indiana Bat**, *Myotis sodalis*, which is known to use numerous trees along Pecumsaugan Creek and its tributaries as roosts and nurseries during the spring, summer, and fall. Pecumsaugan Creek itself provides habitat for the State-listed **Slippershell Mussel**, *Alasmidonta viridis*.

The Department has reviewed the project and concludes that the sand mine could potentially adversely modify habitat for these two species. The Department offers the following recommendations to avoid adverse effects.

Recommendation #1: No trees should be felled or removed except between the dates of November 1 and the subsequent April 1. If trees must be removed during the spring and summer, they should first be investigated for use by the Indiana Bat as a roost tree.

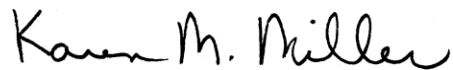
Recommendation #2: A comprehensive soil erosion control plan should be developed and implemented to avoid sedimentation and siltation of any tributary of Pecumsaugan Creek or the Creek itself. Disturbed areas should be mulched and seeded as quickly as possible with temporary or permanent seed mixes.

Consultation on the part of the Department is completed. This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen M. Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Karen M. Miller
Division of Ecosystems and Environment
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karen.m.miller@illinois.gov